

this union with God. Gal. 3:27. "He that is baptized into Christ hath put on Christ." But Christ taught us of the Father and of the Spirit and to perpetuate our faith in the love and work of the three persons of the trinity he taught us to baptize into the name of each. Matt. 28:19. Since we are not unitarian in belief we cannot be in action either and therefore dip three times in baptism as the commission specifies.

Thus we crucify the old man, bury him and rise new creatures to walk in fellowship with the Father and the Son. I John 1:3, and in the Holy Spirit. Gal. 5:16.

9. Baptism is for believers. Acts 2:34-38; Acts 8:38; Mark 16:16. Infant baptism is nowhere mentioned or implied. Having no sins it would be mockery to take them thro the symbol of cleansing and regeneration.

10. Baptism should be administered at once after conversion. In fact conversion is not complete without it. In every case but the exceptional one of Cornelius the Spirit was not given until after water baptism while in a number of cases haste is urged in obeying the command. See Acts 8:34-38; 16:30-35; and 22:16.

These references will perhaps occupy the whole evening. There will be no time for the historical evidence. Any one can take a concordance and look up the word baptism and study it farther. I have tried to present the essential scriptures so that all may see its significance. Once understand that and there will be no question as to the mode for only triune-immersion can fulfill all the symbolical meaning of the rite. May we as young people never be guilty of speaking lightly of so sacred an ordinance but loyally, cheerfully uphold the teaching of the word and walk in obedience to it.

#### QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. At about what age are children usually fit subjects for baptism?
2. Ought a person baptized in a wrong way be rebaptized? See Acts 19:1-4.
3. Has baptism any relation to circumcision?
4. Should a backslider returning to the Lord be rebaptized? Eph. 4:5.
5. Why should we not recognize more than one mode of baptism?
6. Is it right to use a baptistry? If not why not?
7. Will baptism alone save one?
8. Why should everyone study the Bible teaching on baptism and seek to be right in it?

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#### Keep Your Eyes Open for Opportunities

Our young people are doing an increasingly useful work in the way of special religious effort by evangelistic services in small communities that are destitute of regular religious opportunities, or by holding up the hands of the pastor in the home church, or by personal and devoted ministrations to the sick, the aged, the lonely.

The Central Christian Advocate rejoices in the energy displayed by so many Christian young people in this direction. They are a great power for good. It applauds their efforts to walk in the footsteps of Him who when He was on earth "went about doing good," and commends their example as one worthy of general imitation.

Young Christians usually have a little more time than those of an older generation. The cares of the household, the anxieties of extensive business operations, the multiplied burdens of mature life, are not yet within the range of their experience. It should be their ambition to begin in a noble way. Perhaps they are in the habit of dreaming about the future, of planning great things for God and

humanity—after awhile. But let them not permit opportunities for present usefulness to pass them by while planning for future benevolence upon a grand scale. "Do the thing that needs to be done at the present moment," is a sensible motto for every Christian, young or old. Not by doing deeds that shall evoke re-echoing applause, but by humble and unnoticed ministry shall the crown of eternal triumph be won.

Do you have a little leisure time? Do you love God? Are you sincerely anxious to be employed in Christ's work? Then seize the present opportunity to do some little act of kindness. Perhaps there is a home task the doing of which might somewhat lighten a mother's heavy burden. Perhaps there is a blind one within your knowledge, or an aged and feeble sufferer; who could be cheered and refreshed if you were to read aloud an hour or so. Perhaps you know of some lonely little child, a new comer, it may be, to whom your friendship would be a great boon. Embrace the opportunity, whatever it is. We best serve God by doing the little duties of life.

#### A Word of God to Young Men, Especially Those Who Recognize God as Their Father in Heaven

May every one who reads this word of God realize while reading that *he* is one of a present blessed trinity, the Spirit of God, a word of God, and a son of God.

My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: for length of days and long life and peace shall they add to thee. Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: so shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man.

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the Lord, and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones. Honour the Lord with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: so shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.

My son, despise not the chastening of the Lord; neither be weary of his correction: for whom the Lord loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth. Prov. 3:1-12.

Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. 1 John 3:2. Heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. Rom. 8:17. When Christ who is our life shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory. Col. 3:4. Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord. Ps. 150:6.

SAMUEL KIEHL,

Dayton, O.

## The Christian Life

### The Soul's Introspection

My soul, dost thou forget thy God,  
When He bestows His chastening rod?  
Dost thou fear danger, pain, or woe?  
And canst thou through no trial go?

Canst thou not from thy loved ones part,  
And still retain thy trusting heart?  
Canst thou not through the shadows pass,  
Yet trust thy Savior to the last?

Hath life or death a fear to thee?  
Dost thou the future dread to see?  
Canst thou not take thy Savior's hand,  
And steadfast in temptation stand?

Canst thou, my soul, say: "All is well?"  
If not, then it is time to dwell  
And deeply ponder on the way.  
Then cease to roam from God astray.

Something has caused this deep unrest,  
And torn thee from thy Savior's breast:  
Some worldly idol has thy heart,  
That draws thee from thy God apart.

But still, my soul, thou must not fear,  
But simply to thy God draw near;  
And kneeling at His Holy Throne,  
Make thy distress and burden known.

Come back to thy dear Lord once more,  
And pardon for thy sins implore:  
Delay no more to seek His face,  
To pray for faith, and strength, and grace.

Then He will all thy sorrows share,  
And He will all thy burdens bear;  
He'll cleanse thy heart and make it pure,  
While in His love thou'lt rest secure.

And so through life thou'lt trusting go,  
And e'en in death no faltering know;  
In all supported by His love  
Till thou arrive with Him above.

—George J. Russell.

### PRAYER MEETING TOPICS

#### THE PROPHETS—ZECHARIAH. NO. I

##### I Biography

- a. Son of Berechiah. Zech. 1:1.
- b. Grandson of Iddo. Zech. 1:1 and Ezra 5:1; Neh. 12:4, 16.
- c. Since the prophet came from Babylon in company with his grandfather who had been the head of one of the priestly houses, he must have begun to prophecy quite early in life.

d. As to his death we are uncertain, as the reference to the death of Zechariah in Matt. 23:35 may refer to the prophet Zechariah killed at the command of king Joash (II Chron. 24:20) or to the one mentioned in Isa. 8:2, since there is no tradition even that this prophet Zechariah perished by martyrdom.

##### II The Prophecy

a. Almost all students of the prophecy are agreed that the writings placed under the name of Zechariah in our Bible are not the work of a single writer. Some believe that the book is the work of two writers, others that it is the work of three different persons writing at different times.

b. An analysis of the book would make it fall into three portions:—

1. Chapters 1 to 8, which deal with a series of visions and are the work of Zechariah, the grandson of Iddo and belong to the time, just after the return from the Exile.